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FROM THE

TWELVE APOSTLES.

SALT LAKE CITY, U. T.
April 16, 1880.

*To the Presidents of Stakes and
Bishops of the Several Wards:*

Dear Brethren.—During the annual Conference begun in this city on the 6th inst., the Trustee in Trust, with the unanimous approval of the Apostles and Counselors, deemed it a fitting opportunity, on the 50th anniversary of the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and at the close of the Year of Jubilee, to propose remitting some \$800,000 or one-half of the indebtedness to the Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company, by the worthy poor who are struggling with adversity, unable to pay, and with but little prospect of ever being able. This very liberal proposition was cordially sustained by the unanimous vote of the vast congregation, composed of authorities and members from all regions of our settlements.

That these remissions may be applied in the wisest manner possible, the Bishops of the several Wards are hereby respectfully requested to

at once proceed to learn who of those indebted to the P. E. Fund Company they may deem entitled to the benefit of the aforementioned remissions, and write down names, ages, year of immigration and P. O. address, with a few of the principal reasons why they recommend a remission, and forward all such recommends to their several Presidents of Stakes.

The Presidents of Stakes are also respectfully requested to at once carefully examine the aforesaid recommends from the Bishops; endorse thereon their approval or disapproval, with or without remarks as they may please, and forward to the President or Clerk of the P. E. F. Co., Box B, this city, for consideration and final action by the proper authorities here, and their action thereon will be made known to the parties concerned through their Bishop as speedily as may be.

In case a Bishop shall deem it more proper to recommend remitting only a part of an indebtedness, he will recommend accordingly, as aforementioned, specifying the amount.

DELINQUENT TITHING REMITTED.

At the General Jubilee Conference, April 1880, President John Taylor proposed, and the Conference voted, that the deserving poor have their delinquent Tithing remitted throughout the whole church to the amount of one half the total of all delinquencies; under such regulations as shall be approved by the Stake Presidents and the Apostles. The Presidents of Stakes and Bishop's Agents, are therefore respectfully requested to ascertain from the books in the several Wards under their jurisdiction the amount of all such delinquencies and, at an early day, a list of names and the Wards where found, with the amounts recommended for remittal, which should include *all delinquencies* of persons, generally well disposed, but who, by reason of losses, affliction, helpless families or missionary labors, have been unable to pay, and such amounts of other delinquents as may be deemed right and proper, in accordance with the spirit of the Conference. Should the total amounts so recommended for remission amount to less or more than one half the total delinquency of your Stakes respectively, it will be adjusted and equalized as far as practicable, and as shall be deemed to be just, by the Presiding Bishop, with the approval of the Apostles. The several Agents should consult with Bishops, and make up lists to be submitted to the Stake Presidency, which after such modifications as they deem advisable, should be signed by them and the Bishop's Agents for the Stake, and forwarded to the Presiding Bishop of the Church.

We need not remind you that neither favoritism nor prejudice

should influence any one in these matters, but only an earnest desire to make the yoke easy and the burden light.

DONATION OF COWS AND SHEEP.

On the suggestion of President John Taylor and his brethren of the Council of Apostles, by common consent, as expressed by the unanimous vote of the Saints in Conference assembled, on April 7th, 1880, one thousand good young milch cows and five thousand head of healthy sheep were appropriated, for the relief of the deserving poor Saints in Zion. Three hundred of the former, and two thousand of the latter were subscribed by the Church, and the remainder as a donation by the several Stakes, as expressed by the vote of the Presidencies of the Stakes and Bishops of the Wards, who were present at the meeting.

In order that a proper apportionment may be determined, the Presidents of the several Stakes are requested to ascertain and report to the Trustee-in-Trust as speedily as possible the number of cows and sheep that will be required to relieve the worthy poor in their Stakes.

A prompt report, giving the names and residences in full of such as the Bishops recommend and whom you can endorse as being worthy and needy, will enable us to determine at once, and inform you of how many head of each it will be necessary for you to furnish. In securing subscriptions, it would be well as far as possible to make, at the same time, distributions as you may think proper.

Being aware of the object of this

charitable measure, you will, we feel assured, perceive the importance of being thorough, prompt, and energetic in its accomplishment.

for seed. The Tithing Office will in no case be responsible for the return of the whole or any part thereof.

THE LOANING OF RELIEF SOCIETY WHEAT.

To the President of the Central Grain Committee, and Presidents of the various Branches of the Relief Society in Salt Lake City and throughout the Stakes of Zion, having in charge stored Wheat:

In accordance with a unanimous vote of the Sisters present at our late General Conference, we recommend that you loan to your respective Bishops so much wheat as they may consider requisite to meet the necessities of the deserving poor.

We also recommend that the Bishops receipt to you and take receipts from those to whom they distribute, that the wheat loaned may be faithfully returned when circumstances shall permit.

We realize that our Sisters have performed a highly commendable and praiseworthy labor in storing wheat for future emergencies, and we trust that, inasmuch as the wheat is loaned without interest, the Bishops, in carrying out the above measures, will see that they receive a full equivalent for their loans, taking into consideration the losses in changing as well as the difference between old and new wheat as to quality and quantity. The shrinkage is supposed to be about ten per cent. The Bishops should be responsible for the return of the wheat, hence they should loan on good security and to such persons as will return the same according to agreement. It should be loaned mainly

THE FORGIVENESS OF DEBTS TO THE WORTHY POOR IN ZION.

At our recent Annual Conference the Church, by common consent, remitted one-half of the people's entire indebtedness to the Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company, and one half of the amount due on back tithing account; aggregating about \$875,900. This amount to apply to the cancellation of the obligations of the worthy poor on their emigration and tithing accounts; thus freeing them from a burden which they have been unable, to honorably cast off. To all such, in this regard, we offer a Jubilee. The power of God moving the hearts of the Saints still further, caused them to appropriate, for the relief of the deserving poor of Zion, one thousand head of cows and five thousand head of sheep. In addition to this, the Relief Societies, with a liberal generosity, offer to loan to the needy some 34,000 bushels of wheat until after harvest, without interest.

With these worthy examples, as the fruits of the gospel before us, we wish to extend to all our brethren and sisters the privilege of aiding in this good work of compassion and love. We respectfully remind those who have the riches of this world more abundantly bestowed upon them, that they have a fitting opportunity of remembering the Lord's poor. If you hold their notes and they are unable to pay, forgive the interest and the principal, or so much thereof as you might desire them to for-

give were their and your circumstances reversed; thus doing unto others as you would that others should do unto you. For upon this hang the law and the prophets. If you have mortgages upon the homes of your brethren or sisters, who are poor, worthy and honest, and who desire to pay you but cannot, free them in whole or in part. Extend to them a jubilee, if you can consistently. You will have their faith, prayers and confidence, which may be worth more than money. We invite Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution as the parent; all other co-operative institutions as the children; our brethren who are engaged in profitable railroad, banking, mercantile, manufacturing, or other remunerative enterprises, to extend a helping hand. Free the worthy debt-bound brother if you can. Let there be no rich among us from whose tables fall only crumbs to feed a wounded Lazarus. Rather let us, each and all do our part honorably, justly, charitably and well. The Church of Christ has given us a worthy ex-

ample, let us follow it, so that God may forgive our debts as we forgive our debtors. By so doing, you will as Jesus says, "Make unto yourselves friends with the mammon of unrighteousness, that when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations."

That all these matters may be carried promptly to a successful issue, we advise the Presidencies of the several Stakes and the Bishop's agents to proceed at once to visit all the wards therein, holding meetings in order to arrange all these matters while making their visits. By this means they will more readily accomplish what is herein required and have their minds relieved of the responsibilities relating thereto. Those needing wheat for seed must of course have it soon in order that it may be available for that purpose this season; while those needing cows and sheep will appreciate promptness in their delivery.

JOHN TAYLOR,

In behalf of the Council of Apostles,